

# Utah Seismic Safety Commission

Meeting  
January 12, 2001

## Minutes

On January 12, 2001 a regularly scheduled quarterly meeting of the Utah Seismic Safety Commission was held at the State Office Building, Salt Lake City, Utah. The Chairman Walter Arabasz called the meeting to order at 9:05 a.m.

### **Members Present:**

-Rick Allis	Director of Utah Geological Survey
-Walter J. Arabasz	Chair/Seismic Safety Comm.-U of U Seismograph Stations
-Jake Arslanian	American Public Works Association
-Kerry Baum	Association of Contingency Planners
-Don Bush	Utah House of Representatives
-Vanna Hunter	Utah Insurance Department
-Peter W. McDonough	American Society of Civil Engineers
-Matthias Mueller	Utah Division of Facilities Construction & Management
-Dave Nazare	Utah Department of Transportation
-Barry Smith	Western Mountain Region, American Inst. of Architect
-Anne vonWeller	Utah League of Cities & Towns/Murray City
-Barry H. Welliver	Structural Engineers Association of Utah
-Verdi White II	Utah Division of Emergency Management/DPS

### **Members Not Present:**

Peter C. Knudson	Utah State Senate
Vacant	Federal Emergency Management Agency (Ex-Officio)
Randall G. Updike	U.S. Geological Survey (Ex-Officio)
Suzanne Winters	State Science Advisor, Governor's Office of Planning & Budget

### **CEM Staff Present:**

-Bob Carey	Liaison, Operations & Plans Section, CEM
-Amisha Lester	Liaison, Operations & Plans Section, CEM



**UGS Staff Present:**

-Gary Christenson	Applied Geology Section, Utah Geological Survey
-Frank Ashland	Applied Geology Section, Utah Geological Survey

**Guests Present/Committee Members:**

-Carl Eriksson	A & E Committee
-Verl Jensen	Association of Volunteer Emergency Response Teams
-Tricia Porter	Provo Emergency Management
-Donald Chris Springer	Association of Volunteer Emergency Response Teams
-Mike Stever	A & E Committee

➤ **WELCOME/OVERVIEW**.....

Utah Seismic Safety Commission (USSC) Chairman Walter Arabasz welcomed and thanked everyone for attending the meeting.

➤ **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**.....

**Motion:** *Ann vonWeller, Utah League of Cities & Towns, made a motion to approve the minutes from the last meeting held on October 13, 2000. Dave Nazare seconded the motion and the minutes were unanimously approved.*

➤ **INFORMATION UPDATES**.....

Bob Carey, CEM, reported on the WSSPC Post-Earthquake Clearinghouse Workshop. The Clearinghouse will be held in Room B110 of the State Office Building on March 26<sup>th</sup> and 27<sup>th</sup>. The USSC and CEM will be a co-sponsor for the Clearinghouse. The second day will be followed by a tabletop exercise to diminish any problems in this plan that might erect during an exercise. Members of the Commission are welcome and urged to be involved. Please RSVP for this event, whether it is for one or both days.

Gary Christenson, UGS, reported on the potential role of the USSC in a post-earthquake setting. The Commission is encouraged to work on upfront planning and prioritize for the future.

Gary-Spoke on the USGS Intermountain West Workshop on Seismic Hazard Mapping and the Geologic Hazard Conference. The USGS Intermountain West Workshop is to be held March 28-30, 2001 in Salt Lake City. The focus for this workshop will be on Seismic Hazard Maps. These dates and times are subject to change. The Geologic Hazard of Utah Conference is to be held April 12-13, 2001 also in Salt Lake City. This Conference is being hosted by the Association of Engineering Geologist and the American Society of Civil Engineers local sections and co-sponsored by UGS and USSC. The focus will be methods of assessment and mitigation of geologic hazards.

Chris Springer, AVERT, spoke on the offer by AVERT (Association of Volunteer Emergency Response Teams) to assist the Commission. AVERT started 6 years ago and was organized originally by a citizen board to promote and maintain Community Emergency Response Team Programs. AVERT's offer to the Commission as a non-profit organization is that they can provide the Commission with an extensive network of information throughout the State. AVERT is encouraged to speak to Bob Carey regarding membership on the A & E Committee.

Barry Welliver, Structural Engineers Association of Utah, spoke on an update on building-code issues. The Structural Engineers Association Seismic Committee for the last seven months has been reviewing the 2000 version of the IBC (International Building Code) for their suitability for adoption here in Utah. Adoption should be complete within a year.

➤ **DISCUSSION & DETAILED PLANNING OF COMMISSION INVOLVEMENT IN APRIL 2001 EARTHQUAKE/DISASTER PREPAREDNESS MONTH IN UTAH**

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Mike Stever, Salt Lake Co. Emergency Manager, spoke on the April 2001 Earthquake/Disaster Preparedness Month. Nationally April is Earthquake Preparedness Month. The last two years the Commission has sponsored an activity within schools called Safe Surroundings and Earthquake Drills. And has also offered a certificate to each school that has performed tasks that have been asked of them. The A & E Committee is interested in making this preparedness month an all county issue.

Mike gave a presentation with video clips and slides. The coordination of activities for the month of April will be turned over to the A & E Committee as an action item. The committee will present activities and advertise through the media. Publicity will be the key for involvement from the community.

**Motion:** *Walter made a motion that the Commission be committed to support both the planning and planned activities of Emergency Managers and other officials in implementing the April 2001 Earthquake/Disaster Preparedness Month in Utah. Also the Commission would like to task the Awareness & Education Committee to take a lead-planning role on behalf of the Commission and that the Commission makes available to the A & E Committee an amount to \$1,000 for expenses. Peter W. McDonough seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved.*

➤ **REPORT TO THE LEGISLATURE**

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Walter-spoke to the update of the Report to the Legislature. The draft of the report is 95 % completed. Walter asks that members of the commission to take a look at the report and give any feedback within a week. Representative Bush will try to present the most important actions items of this report before the Legislative Committee, the State and Local Affairs Committee, anytime after the revisions have been made.

➤ **NEXT MEETING**

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**DATE:** Friday, April 27, 2001  
**TIME:** 9:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.  
**PLACE:** Ogden City and County Building  
Salt Lake City, Utah

➤ **ADJOURNMENT**

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The meeting was adjourned at 11:05 a.m.